

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 17932 01 OF 03 061622Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08  
AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 HEW-04 AGRE-00  
HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /113 W  
-----085570 061637Z /64

O 061426Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2718  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 PARIS 17932

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, EAID, CG  
SUBJECT: PARIS MEETING: CALCULATION OF ZAIRE'S  
SHORT-TERM ESSENTIAL IMPORTS AND ASSISTANCE NEEDS

1. SUMMARY. AT FIVE-POWER PARIS MEETING ON JUNE 5, A  
WORKING GROUP STUDIED QUESTION OF ZAIRE'S SHORT-TERM  
ESSENTIAL IMPORTS AND ASSISTANCE NEEDS BASED ON  
BELGIAN ESTIMATES. PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION WAS THAT  
IMPORTS OF MINIMUM QUANTITIES OF FUEL, FOOD, MEDICINES  
AND SPARE PARTS OVER NEXT THREE MONTHS MAY BE ON THE  
ORDER OF \$60-\$70 MILLION AND THAT PRESENT OR LIKELY  
SOURCES OF FINANCING AND ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE IN-  
ADEQUATE. DELS AGREED TO INFORM THEIR AMBASSADORS  
IN KINSHASA OF THIS ESTIMATE, ASK THEM TO  
MEET TOGETHER TO EXCHANGE THEIR OWN VIEWS ON ZAIRE'S  
MINIMUM ESSENTIAL IMPORT AND ASSISTANCE NEEDS OVER  
NEXT THREE MONTHS AND TO REPORT BACK TO THEIR CAPITALS  
BY FRIDAY, JUNE 9, SO FIVE DELEGATIONS WILL BE BETTER  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 17932 01 OF 03 061622Z

PREPARED FOR THE JUNE 13-14 BRUSSELS MEETING. IT  
WAS AGREED NOT TO DISCUSS SUCH ESTIMATES WITH THE GOZ  
AT THIS STAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. PETROLEUM.  
BELGIANS ESTIMATED ZAIRE'S MINIMUM IMPORTED FUELS  
REQUIREMENT AT \$15 MILLION PER MONTH (INCLUDING

APPARENTLY FOR ZAIRIAN MILITARY AT PRE-SHABA II LEVEL). THEY ESTIMATED THAT ZAIRE HAD BEEN IMPORTING ONLY ABOUT HALF OF THIS LEVEL, BUT NEEDED ASSISTANCE FOR THE ADDITIONAL \$7.5 MILLION IF PROVINCIAL TOWNS SUCH AS IN SHABA AREA WERE TO HAVE ESSENTIAL TRANSPORT AND POWER. THEY RELATED FUEL REQUIREMENTS TO ABILITY TO DISTRIBUTE ESSENTIAL FOOD AND MEDICINES INTERNALLY.

3. MEDICINES.

BELGIANS ESTIMATED AN ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY FOR ZAIRE DURING ONE YEAR OF \$12 MILLION IN MEDICINES AND \$6 MILLION IN OTHER MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES. THEY BASED THESE NUMBERS ON THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF BELGIAN DOCTORS AND TECHNICIANS WORKING FOR MANY YEARS IN ZAIRE. THEY GRANTED AS HOW SOME OF THE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT NEEDS MIGHT NOT HAVE TO BE MET WITH SAME URGENCY AS FOR MEDICINES.

4. FOOD.

BELGIANS ESTIMATED ANNUAL ZAIRIAN IMPORTS OF MINIMUM ESSENTIAL FOODSTUFFS TO BE ABOUT \$115 MILLION. COMMODITY BREAKDOWN WAS AS FOLLOWS: (A) 140,000 TONS OF CORN EVALUATED AT \$21 MILLION (P.A),  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 17932 01 OF 03 061622Z

(B) 70,000 TONS OF RICE (\$18 MILLION), (C) 20,000 TONS OF MEAT (\$18.1 MILLION), (D) 42,000 TONS OF DRIED FISH (\$38.1 MILLION), (E) 20,000 TONS OF SUGAR (\$4.7 MILLION), AND (F) 80,000 TONS OF WHEAT (\$14.5 MILLION). THEY RELATED FOOD NEEDS, PARTICULARLY IN ZAIRIAN TOWNS (WITH SOME EMPHASIS ON SHABA, AS WELL AS KINSHASA) CLOSELY TO THE CLIMATE OF POLITICAL AND SOCIAL MALAISE. (IN SIDE TALKS, SOME BELGIAN REPS EVEN OFFERED THEIR "PERSONAL VIEWS" THAT AN AIRLIFT OF EMERGENCY FOOD TO ZAIRIAN TOWNS WOULD SERVE BENEFICIALLY TO CALM THE SITUATION AND REDUCE POTENTIAL FOR DISRUPTIONS.)

5. SPARE PARTS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 17932 02 OF 03 061623Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08  
AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 HEW-04 AGRE-00  
HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /113 W  
-----085579 061638Z /64

O 061426Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2719  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 03 PARIS 17932

BELGIANS HAD NO PRECISE ESTIMATES OF REQUIREMENTS  
FOR MINIMUM LEVEL OF IMPORTED SPARE PARTS. THEY SAID  
THEY MIGHT HAVE MORE INFORMATION AT JUNE  
13-14 BRUSSELS MEETING. THEY EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE  
OF SPARES, FOR EXAMPLE, IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY, TO  
MAINTENANCE OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL STABILITY.

6. WORKING GROUP EXAMINATION OF THREE MONTHS OF  
ZAIRIAN NEEDS.

WORKING GROUP UNDER FRENCH (FROMENT-MEURICE) WAS  
FORMED FROM ECONOMIC TYPES ON THE FIVE DELEGATIONS  
AND MET FOR SEVERAL HOURS TO EXAMINE THE BELGIAN  
ESTIMATES AND THEIR POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR  
EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE OVER THE NEXT THREE  
MONTHS. BELGIANS TOOK EUROPEAN LEAD IN TRYING TO  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 17932 02 OF 03 061623Z

EMPHASIZE NECESSITY FOR SUBSTANTIAL EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE. US REP (CUNDIFF, AFEPS) URGED THAT  
GROUP NOT IGNORE SOURCES OF FINANCING, INCLUDING  
ZAIRE'S OWN EXPORT RECEIPTS, AND THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
(SUCH AS OUR RECENTLY SIGNED PL480 TITLE I AGREEMENT)

WHICH MIGHT FILL THE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL IMPORT GAP.

7. SOURCES OF POSSIBLE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE.

(A) US REP ON WORKING GROUP REITERATED FIGURES ON US ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE, INCLUDING HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DISASTER RELIEF AND TITLE II FOOD GRANTS FOR REFUGEES) THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST TO CONGRESS IN FY 79 FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AS WELL AS OUR PLANNING FOR PL 480, TITLE I. HE NOTED THAT USG WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO CONSIDER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE REQUESTS WHEN THERE WAS AN IDENTIFIED NEED AND ASSURANCES WITH REGARD TO THE ACCOUNTING FOR ITS PROPER USAGE. HE REITERATED THAT US SECURITY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE COULD BE USED TO HELP IMPORT NECESSARY SPARE PARTS.

(B) UK REP (DEREK THOMAS) INDICATED UNOFFICIAL FIGURE OF 10 MILLION POUNDS AS BEING MAXIMUM PACKAGE OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (AS WELL AS LONG-TERM ADDITIONAL AID) WHICH UNITED KINGDOM MIGHT PROVIDE, SUBJECT TO OTHER POTENTIAL DONORS DOING THEIR FAIR SHARE. HE CAUTIONED THAT THIS FIGURE HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED WITH MINISTERS, BUT ONLY CONSIDERED WITHIN UK GOVERNMENT BY OFFICIALS. HE SAID UK WOULD CONSIDER DELIVERY OF LORRIES TO HELP IN DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD. ANY MEDIUM-TERM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AID WOULD BE TIED TO BRITISH EXPORTS. SINCE BELGIAN REP (THUISBAERT) HAD RAISED

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 17932 02 OF 03 061623Z

HIS "PERSONAL IDEA" OF AIRLIFTING EMERGENCY SUPPLIES, UK REP SAID THAT THIS WAS NORMALLY "NOT FEASIBLE," BUT HE DID NOT RULE IT OUT.

(C) FRENCH (FROMERT-MAURICE) NOTED THAT FRANCE GAVE ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE THROUGH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THROUGH BILATERAL PROJECT AID WHICH COULD NOT HELP MEET SHORT-TERM EMERGENCY NEEDS OF ZAIRE, BUT HE WOULD LOOK INTO POSSIBILITIES.

(D) GERMAN REP (KAMPANN) SAID FRG COULD PROBABLY CONSIDER FOOD AID. HE COMPLAINED ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES THE FRG HAD IN DISBURSING ITS CURRENT AID TO ZAIRE.

(E) BELGIANS SAID THEY COULD GIVE FOOD AID AND WERE WILLING TO HELP IN ZAIRE TO ASSURE THE PROPER DELIVERY OF FOREIGN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

8. WORKING GROUP'S PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS.

AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF DISCUSSION, WORKING GROUP'S  
CHAIRMAN REPORTED ORALLY ROUGHLY THE FOLLOWING CON-  
CLUSIONS:

I. ZAIRE HAS URGENT ECONOMIC NEEDS WHICH RESULT PRIN-  
CIPALLY FROM THE ECONOMIC SITUATION BEFORE SHABA II,  
BUT WHICH HAVE NOW WORSENERED.

II. BASED ON A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF VIEWS OF  
FIGURES OFFERED BY THE BELGIAN DELEGATION, WHICH REMAIN  
TO BE EXAMINED FURTHER BY EXPERTS, THE FOLLOWING IM-  
PORTS APPEARED THE MINIMUM NECESSARY OVER THE NEXT  
THREE MONTHS:

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PARIS 17932 02 OF 03 061623Z

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 17932 03 OF 03 061616Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08  
AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 HEW-04 AGRE-00  
HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /113 W  
-----085507 061638Z /64

O 061426Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2720

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 03 OF 03 PARIS 17932

(A) \$22.5 MILLION IN IMPORTED FUELS (I.E \$7.5 MILLION TIMES THREE);

(B) \$3 MILLION IN HIGHEST-PRIORITY MEDICINES (I.E. \$1 MILLION TIMES THREE);

(C) ABOUT \$30 MILLION IN FOODSTUFFS (ROUGHLY \$10 MILLION PER MONTH); AND

(D) ALTHOUGH INFORMATION ON SPARES WAS INCOMPLETE, THE TOTAL FIGURE FOR ALL FOUR ABOVE CATEGORIES OF ESSENTIAL IMPORTS FOR NEXT THREE MONTHS MIGHT BE ON THE ORDER OF ABOUT \$60-70 MILLION.

III. WHATEVER EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE RECEIVED BY ZAIRE, IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE DISTRIBUTION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 17932 03 OF 03 061616Z

SYSTEM IN ZAIRE BE EFFICIENTLY MANAGED SO THAT ESSENTIAL IMPORTS REACH THE APPROPRIATE END-USERS, AND THAT THIS ISSUE OF PROPER USE OF ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE TAKEN UP (AT SOME APPROPRIATE TIME) BY OUR AMBASSADORS IN KINSHASA WITH THE GOZ. (U.S. REP IN WORKING GROUP CAUTIONED AGAINST ANY ACTION ON ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE WHICH MIGHT COMPRISE THE LIKELIHOOD OF A ZAIRIAN PROGRAM OF STABILIZATION AND REFORMS.)

IV. WORKING GROUP NOTED THREE SOURCES OF POSSIBLE "FINANCING" FOR ZAIRE'S MINIMUM ESSENTIAL IMPORT NEEDS OVER THE NEXT THREE MONTHS: (1) ZAIRE'S OWN EXPORT RECEIPTS, BUT THE OUTLOOK FOR THEM IN VIEW OF THE KOLWEZI EVENTS WERE POOR AND ALSO DEPENDED UPON MEASURES OF STABILIZATION, REFORM AND CONTROL; (2) INTERNATIONAL CREDITS FROM AGREEMENT WITH THE IMF AND PRIVATE BANKS; (3) FOOD AND PROGRAM AID FROM ALREADY SIGNED ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS. NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THESE SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE WOULD NOT SUFFICE OR BE EARLY ENOUGH TO MEET THESE URGENT IMPORT NEEDS.

VI. EACH OF THE FIVE GOVERNMENTS SHOULD STUDY THE SITUATION AND BE PREPARED TO GIVE ITS VIEWS ABOUT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE AT THE BRUSSELS MEETING IN JUNE 13-14. (NOTE: AFTER FRENCH CHAIRMAN GAVE HIS ORAL REPORT, EXPERTS MET WITH HIM AGAIN TO CLARIFY THAT OUR FIVE AMBASSADORS IN KINSHASA SHOULD BE ASKED TO EXAMINE THE PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES AND REPORT BACK THEIR VIEWS TO THEIR CAPITALS BEFORE THE BRUSSELS MEETING SO THAT WE CAN ALL BE BETTER INFORMED ON THE SITUATION. IT WAS ALSO AGREED NOT TO APPROACH THE GOZ AT THIS

STAGE ON ITS VIEWS OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE NEEDS, IN  
ORDER TO AVOID AN UNREALISTIC SHOPPING LIST OR THE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 17932 03 OF 03 061616Z

RAISING OF UNFULFILLABLE EXPECTATIONS.)

9. COMMENT: THROUGHOUT THESE DISCUSSIONS, OUR DISTINCT  
IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE BELGIANS IN PARTICULAR ARE  
ANXIOUS TO PROVIDE ZAIRE WITH SUBSTANTIAL EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE AS A WAY OF CALMING POLITICAL AND SOCIAL  
UNREST. THE RESULT IS THAT THERE IS A TENDENCY TO  
EQUATE "EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE NEEDS" WITH "MINIMUM  
ESSENTIAL IMPORTS," AND NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT AS CARE-  
FULLY THE RECEIPTS FROM ZAIRE'S OWN EXPORTS OR THE  
POTENTIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THAT MIGHT BE MADE  
AVAILABLE FROM THE IMF. IN ANY EVENT, WE WILL HAVE TO  
PREPARE OURSELVES ON THIS SCORE FOR THE BRUSSELS MEET-  
ING.

10. FOR KINSHASA: IMAGINE YOU WILL BE APPROACHED QUITE  
SOON BY FRENCH AND BELGIAN AMBASSADORS ABOUT "COLLABORA-  
TION OF THE FIVE" IN KINSHASA ALONG THE LINES OF CON-  
CLUSION IN PARA 8 VI. ABOVE. YOUR REPORTING BEFORE  
THE BRUSSELS MEETING WILL BE USEFUL TO PREPARATIONS OF  
THE U.S. DELEGATION.

11. FOR OTTAWA: CANADIAN EMBASSY IN PARIS ASKED US  
AFTER THE MEETING ABOUT THE DISCUSSION OF EMERGENCY  
ASSISTANCE NEEDS. WE GAVE THEM A BRIEF SUMMARY. THEY  
PROMISED TO LET US KNOW FROM OTTAWA WHAT THE FRENCH  
TELL THEM ABOUT EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE IN THE  
COURSE OF THE FRENCH-CANADIAN BILATERALS IN PARIS,  
JUNE 5-7.  
HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** IMPORTS, MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PARIS17932  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780236-0456  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780691/aaaadare.tel  
**Line Count:** 370  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 29086e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 7  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2476351  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PARIS MEETING: CALCULATION OF ZAIRE'S SHORT-TERM ESSENTIAL IMPORTS AND ASSISTANCE NEEDS  
**TAGS:** PEPR, EAID, CG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/29086e91-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014